

Thomas P. McNamara Mayor Office of the Mayor

June 18, 2018

Ms. Kathy Olson Chairperson Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, 2ND Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

> Re: Letter of Support Dialysis Care Center Rockford Project 17-070

Dear Ms. Olson,

I am writing to support and encourage the Illinois Health Facilities Board to approve the 14-station dialysis facility that Dialysis Care Center Rockford is proposing to establish.

It is my understanding that the new facility will help address the growing need for dialysis services in the area, easing the burden on staff at existing clinics that are currently operating at or above capacity and make it easier for area patients to get the appropriate treatment options. Studies have also shown that access and continuity of care are especially important for chronic care patients, and that having a medical "home" helps reduce health care costs as well as medical complications.

There is an urgent need of the dialysis services to this area as most of the area's population lack proper health insurance. This center will accommodate all patients regardless of their insurance status. Access to care is an important issue for me and my constituents. I am very attuned to our area's health care issues and dedicated to providing our community with sufficient medical access and, when possible, a better quality of life.

I believe local, community-based medical facilities are vital as they allow residents to be near their homes and spend more time at work, with their loved ones or otherwise enjoying productive lives.

I strongly believe adding needed medical facilities to this area will benefit residents in my community, and I give my full support to Dialysis Care Center Rockford. I highly recommend that Illinois Health and Services Review Board approve the Dialysis Care Center Rockford application for the dialysis services facility in Rockford.

Thank you,

Mayor, City of Rockford

City of Rockford, Illinois USA